Around the Nation

Known Radicals Hunted in Bank Bomb Plant

Authorities hunted fugitive members of known radical groups yesterday, seeking a clue to who planted black powder bombs in bank safety deposit boes in three cities. Meanwhile, bank officials discussed ways to tighten security.

The FBI headed the investigation into the planting of the bombs, discovered and deactivated in New York, Chicago and San Francisco Friday after warning letters were received by news media.

One high federal source indicated there would be a stepped-up search for 16 fugitives under federal indictment and known to have links to radical groups such as the Weatherman faction of Students for a Democratic Society.

He also said intensive efforts were under way to account for other persons believed to be associated with groups "prone to radical violence."

Chicago newspapers reported that after the Bank of America bombing, agents of the FBI, Central Intelligence Agency and Treasury Department had questioned two persons who had maintained and managed an apartment building on Chicago's North Side.

They were seeking information, the report said, of a Christopher Charles Mohr, whose name was used in the registration of all nine safety deposit boxes. Mohr had used the Chicago address. Authorities believe the name is fictitious.